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C. B. BRIGHAM, Editor.

E. D. THOMSON, Business Manager.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VIII. PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 28, 1871. NO. 112.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M

HARRISBURG.

Proceedings of the Legislature.

Bills Introduced and Acted Upon—The Militia Trouble in Allegheny County—Adjourned Till Monday.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 27, 1871.

SENATE.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Rutan—Legalizing the action of the Supervisors of Buffalo township, Washington county, in dividing, advertising and selling roads. Incorporating the New Brighton Gas Company.

By Mr. Anderson—Incorporating the Trustees of the Second of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America.

Action on Bills.

Mr. Rutan called up and had passed his supplement to the penal laws, which provides for punishment by fine and imprisonment of the destruction, removal or injury of fences, shrubbery, &c., of cemeteries and graveyards. Also, repealing the Auditors of Industry township, Beaver county, to remunerate certain county servants, and staying proceedings in the Common Pleas.

Mr. Anderson called up the bill relating to Penn avenue bonds, Pittsburgh.

The bill incorporating the Women's Homœopathic Hospital Association of Pittsburgh was reported negatively, the Courts having power.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Petitions and Remonstrances.

Numerous petitions and remonstrances were presented and bills reported.

Amendment to the Militia Law.

A bill from the Senate to allow district attorneys to hold office in the Militia, which, unfortunately to cover the difficulty in Allegheny county, was passed.

Both Houses adjourned till Monday evening.

Local and General Bills Introduced.

EXEMPTION OF PENN AVENUE BONDS.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That so much of Section 12 of an act entitled "An act to provide for the improvement of Penn avenue and other avenues and streets in the city of Pittsburgh," approved the 3d day of April, 1850, as provides that the bonds authorized by said act and known as Penn avenue bonds, shall be redeemed at any time at the option of each city, be and the same is hereby repealed, and that said bonds shall not be redeemable by the city of Pittsburgh until their maturity, except with the consent of the holders thereof.

SEC. 2. That the Mayor of the city of Pittsburgh be and he hereby is authorized and directed to redeem such of said bonds as may be presented to him for that purpose by the holders thereof.

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

CHANGE OF VENUE.

The second section of the act approved April 26, 1870, entitled "An act relative to changes of venue, is repealed.

BILL TO ENLARGE THE JURISDICTION OF COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS.

The provisions of the act of March 27, 1867, to enlarge the jurisdiction of the Courts of Common Pleas of the Commonwealth relative to granting charters of incorporation and confirming those heretofore granted, are so extended as to authorize said courts to grant charters to agricultural associations and other associations for the propagation of game and fish.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE JURY LAW.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That the number of persons to be selected by the jury commissioners and presented to the court of common pleas and quarter sessions, judge or associate judges, on the second day of April in, and to be summoned on the first Monday of the respective counties of the Commonwealth to which said court belongs, in all cases in which that number has not been designated by the court of Common Pleas of the county at the first term preceding the annual meeting of said jury commissioners, president judge or additional law judge, to make such selection in the same manner which had been selected and placed in the proper jury wheel or wheels for the year next preceding, and the selection and placing of the names of such number in the proper wheel or wheels be said jury commissioners, president judge or additional law judge, or a majority of them, shall have the same effect as those drawn by lot, and be signed and sworn by the Court of Common Pleas of the respective county, at the time required by said several sections of said act.

EXTENSION OF SHERIFF'S INTERPLEADER ACT.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted, etc.* That from and after the passage of this act, no person shall be eligible to the office of County Auditor who shall not, at the time of his election, within two years, shall have been treasurer of the county.

SEC. 2. So much of the third section of the act entitled "An act relating to the election of County Treasurers, and for other purposes," approved the fifth day of May, A. D., 1841, as makes a County Auditor ineligible to the office of County Treasurer until the expiration of one year from the time of his service, which he shall have been elected, is hereby repealed.

EXECUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That whenever any personal property, or the increase, profits or dividends thereof, has been or shall hereafter be bequeathed to any person for life, or for a term of years, or for any other limited period, or upon a condition or contingency, the executor or executors, administrator with the will annexed, or trustee or trustees under such will, as the case may be, shall have power to sell the property so bequeathed to the person entitled thereto, upon such person giving security in the orphans' court having jurisdiction of the estate, in such form and amount as in the judgments, in such form and amount as in the judgment of the court will sufficiently secure the payment of the person or persons entitled in remainder, or who never the same shall accrue or vest in interest; and any married woman having a power of the benefits of this act shall have power, as feme sole, to bind herself and her estate by the sale and the obligation given by her as security under this act.

REGARDING THE ADMISSION OF SANE PERSONS TO HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.

The House committee on (General) reported, with a negative recommendation, a bill providing that it shall be unlawful for any person to keep a hospital or institute for the insane unless the same should be an act of the Legislature; that it shall not be lawful for any hospital or other institution to take in and treat as insane any person habitually addicted to the use of drunk- ard or confirmed inebriate, or any sane person suffering from apoplexy, paralysis, or any other contagious disease. A penalty of fine and imprisonment is prescribed as punishment for any violation of the provisions of the bill.

THE RECORD.

The committee appointed to make contract for printing the *Legislative Record*, reported that the contract entered with John M. Carson and Alexander J. McCleary to print the *Record* at $14 a page, &c., to be printed daily for the House and 2,000 for the Senate. No document except the Governor's message shall be printed in the *Record* until it is published; the proceedings of one day must be printed the next, and a failure for two days should be deemed a forfeiture. The contract was confirmed.

THE EXECUTION OF JOHN HANLON—A LAW IS THE WAY—TROUBLE ANTICIPATED.

HARRISBURG, January 26.—Since the visit of the Catholic clergymen to the Governor in the interest of John Hanlon, the murderer of little Mary Monaman, there have been no further efforts to secure a respite. While some look upon this quietness as a sure indication that his friends are perfectly satisfied that he is the guilty man, others conceive that it portends further trouble. This latter class are of the opinion that the counsel for the condemned man will take advantage of the special act passed at the last session, allowing writs of error to be issued to the Supreme Court, and that the testimony as well as the law might be reviewed in cases of murder in the first degree. This act is considered by many as hostile, and was intended to apply especially to the case of Dr. Paul Schoppe. The Governor, while thoroughly sifted, and in granting it no limit as to time when the writ should be presented was incorporated. This is where the danger from the case of Hanlon is anticipated. It is known that no very determined effort has as yet been made to carry the matter to the Supreme Court under the act of 1870, and it is believed that some notoriety is to be acquired by presenting the writ, while Hanlon is on the scaffold. It would certainly be a dramatic scene; and who is there more anxious for such an event than those who have been moving, so to speak, heaven and earth in an endeavor to avoid this murderer of a little girl five years of age? Hanlon, it is asserted, was declared to be sound on the question of the law by the Governor, and this, it is thought, means that the public is to be suddenly taken by surprise by some such movement as the above. All this could be obviated by a repeal of the act of 1836 before mentioned, and the unnecessary hurling at press of seems to be that the bill which is now in the House committee will be brought out and acted on without delay.

A CASE OF CONTESTED SEAT ABANDONED.

The case of the contested seat in the Armstrong district has been abandoned, and the committee will submit a report to that effect in a few days. The committee were officially notified of the fact at their meeting last evening by the counsel of Mr. Steele, the contestant.

RAILWAY MATTERS

THE ALABAMA AND CHATTANOOGA R. R.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., January 27.—The Chattanooga *Daily Times* contains a report of an interview with J. G. Shanklin, General Superintendent of the Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad Company. He says the reason the January interest was not paid by his road on the bonds indorsed by the State of Alabama was that if the new administration of Alabama would recognize the validity of the bonds issued by the last Legislature in aid of Superintendent Shanklin is also offended. He needed if he could obtain from Governor Lindsay the promise to recommend to the present Legislature to acknowledge the bonds as genuine. He says the time, but Governor Lindsay positively refused to do either. Shanklin says he has provided money to pay all the floating debt, and complete the road, which now lacks only forty miles, in force days from now. He will then pay interest on the bonds, and will ask no more indulgence from the State.

MEETING IN CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, January 27.—A spirited meeting of merchants was held to-day in the interest of the Newport Railroad Company.

FIRES.

Milwaukee.

MILWAUKEE, January 26.—The First Holland Presbyterian Church was burned last night. Loss, $4,000.

Hull, Mass.

BOSTON, January 27.—The Mansion House at Hull was totally destroyed by fire last night, together with the furniture, on which there was $4,000 insurance.

Duquoin, Ill.

CAIRO, ILL., January 27.—The hay press and barn at Duquoin, Ill., belonging to D. H. Misderman, was totally destroyed by fire on October's dark the morning. The barn contained a large amount of hay, a horse, two cows and several hogs, all of which were burned. Loss about $5,000; insured for $2,000. The fire is thought to be the work of an incendiary.

GENERAL JOHN A. LOGAN, elected Senator for the state of Illinois, to succeed Yates, is Congressman at large of the State, and there is talk of electing Mr. Joseph Medill, of Chicago, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the promotion of Gen. Logan.

MASSILLON, O.

Closing Proceedings of the G. A. R. Encampment.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MASSILLON, January 27, 1871.

The G. A. R. Encampment of Ohio closed its sessions last night, and adjourned to meet at Xenia, O., July 19th, 1871. The report of the committee on the affairs of the State represent everything in good condition. The reports of Committees on Soldiers' and Orphans' Home were adopted, and also a resolution thanking Department Commander J. Warren Keifer, W. J. Winter, A. A. G., J. H. Robinson, A. Q. M. G., for the faithful performance of their laborious duties during the year. Friendly telegrams were received from the departments of Pennsylvania and New York, and replies authorized. It was quite a successful and pleasant meeting.

COLUMBUS, O.

Sudden Death of Col. Young, a Member of the House of Representatives from Columbiana County.

COLUMBUS, January 27.—Col. G. J. Young, a member of the House of Representatives from Columbiana county, and editor of the *Buckeye State*, died suddenly this afternoon. As he entered the State-house after dinner, he was attacked with hemorrhage of the lungs. He was taken immediately to the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, where he died in a few minutes. Col. Young was Military Secretary of the late Governor Tod. The event has cast a great gloom over the General Assembly, was in session but a short time after its occurrence. The body has been placed in the Governor's office until its removal to Columbiana county.

MANSFIELD, O.

Dwelling House Destroyed by Fire.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MANSFIELD, O., January 27, 1871.

The house of Charles H. Johnson, in South Addition, was destroyed by fire last night. Loss about fifteen hundred dollars; insured in the Phœnix, of Hartford, for twelve hundred dollars. The older members of the family were absent. Neighbors at the time of the fire, leaving two young children in the house. The children were rescued before the flames reached them. The fire caught from a defective flue.

STATE LEGISLATURES.

Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, January 27.—Governor Brown sent a special message to the Legislature yesterday, in which he very ably discusses the divorce laws. He recommends the refunding of a State House of Refuge for juvenile criminals, and a thorough geological survey of the State and a complete revision of the revenue and insurance laws of the Government. He seems to think adultery the only sufficient cause for absolute divorce, and suggests that this act be made penal, and when the evidence of adultery is sufficient to justify a legal separation, the guilty party should be punished by the same judgment that grants the divorce.

Arkansas.

MEMPHIS, JANUARY 27.—The *Avalanche*'s Little Rock special says: A tumultuous scene occurred in the Arkansas senate to-day. Immediately after the reading of the journal, James Brooks, who had come in and stood near the Speaker's stand, presented a certificate of election from the friends of Pulaski and White counties, and demanded to be sworn in. According to legal returns Dr. Bliss was legally elected, but Clayton refused to allow the Secretary of State to report them, and declared Brooks elected by after 50 demand of Rives, several Senators, friends of Clayton, sprang to their feet, exclaiming "I object." Senator Johnson, the rival Senator Johnson, the fast friend of Brooks, said he considered it a high-handed outrage. Senator Mallory appealed to the Senate to protect itself, and called on the Sergeant-at-Arms to enforce order. The Lieutenant Governor, paying no attention to the objections, proceeded with the call, on the question of whether Brooks should be the reference of his credentials to the Committee on Elections. Brooks had in the meantime left the room. The Lieutenant Governor said it was expected the gentleman would object, Senator Baldwin—I object that sir, and I demand the yeas and nays. It was expected you, too, would object." (Great sensation, cries of order.) Chair again ruled Brooks entitled to the floor, who proceeded in a speech of an hour and a half. He defends the action of himself and the Governor, denouncing Mallory as a ruffian and bully, who lorded it over Senate 27. Other Senators replied, Mallory bidding. The proceedings created an intense sensation, the Clayton men denouncing them as revolutionary, while the Brooks men retorted that the rulers and the proceedings of the Senate against the Lieutenant Governor. Mr. Flattery introduced a bill declaring the course of the Lieutenant Governor in recognizing Brooks as Senator illegal, unparliamentary usage, and consequently null and void. The bill was referred, and the Senate then adjourned. The passage by the House of the Senate bill taking away the power of the Governor to remove within fifteen days after the adoption of the constitution is very doubtful.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, January 27.—A bill appropriating $100,000 was reported by the Legislative Committee to-night from the Governor's message. The amount first but has been reduced to $50,000 by the House, and in this shape it goes to the Senate.

NEWS SUMMARY

BY TELEGRAPH.

James Lynch was found at the foot of the stairs at Collins' Barracks, Cincinnati, early yesterday morning, so badly hurt that he will probably die. Whether he fell down the stairway or was thrown down is unknown.

In the game of billiards at San Francisco, Thursday night, between Dion and Deery, the former playing Dion against the latter's odds of 500, at the game, Deery won, making 500 to Dion's 479. The winner was greeted with tremendous applause.

Hailey, who was engaged by the Lower California Company to write up the Magdalena Bay Colonization scheme, published in the Magdalena *Mercury*, published by himself, declares that he was duped, and denouncing the scheme as an unmitigated fraud and criminal imposition on emigrants.

George Knox, living in the family of Augustus Woodard, at Bloomington, Ill., was burned to death Thursday night by the explosion of a kerosene lamp. The house and furniture were also destroyed, and Mr. Woodard was also seriously burned.

Mrs. Maria E. Mills, who figured conspicuously in the recent infanticide at the boarding house on Wabash avenue, Chicago, has engendered a suit of her own against Rev. Wm. H. Knapp, the other party in the affray, laying her damages at ten thousand dollars. The suit is brought in behalf of her son Charlie, a like suit, laying his damages at the same figure, will be soon entered. In the cases do not develop the exact purpose of the actions.

August Wolff, aged fifteen years, was killed yesterday morning by being run over by a train of cars at Hamilton avenue, Chicago.

A Halifax dispatch says: The steamer Florida, supposed to be a Cuban cruiser, arrived here last night. Pinfarch Gonzalez, a passenger in her, says Halifax for sale by her owner, for whom he is agent.

The steamship Batavia, from Liverpool, arrived at Boston yesterday.

Isaac Julian, editor of the Richmond (Ind.) *Radical*, was assaulted and beaten Thursday on the street, by a man named Latcaster, upon whom he had reduced in his paper.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, January 27, 1870.

CAPITAL REMOVAL.

The New York *Tribune* to-morrow (Saturday) will publish a long and able letter to President Grant from L. M. Reavis, Esq., of St. Louis, wherein he replies to the President's speech on the removal of the capital, and gives a history of the whole question, with an elaborate statement of the progress of the nation and the commercial growth of the West, and asserts that the capital must be removed to the Valley of the Mississippi.

SONS OF THE EXILES ARRIVED.

The following named released Fenians arrived in the Inside: David Mulcahy, Thos. F. Burke, D. Edward Power, W. P. Roantree, Edward St. John Gallagher, John Breen, Patrick Wade, Peter Monaghan and Patrick Lennon. A large crowd collected at the Custom-house to welcome, and Mayor Hall and Richard Busteed, Congressman Wm. R. Roberts greeted them on behalf of the Tammany reception committee, and escorted them to the Sweeny Hotel.

SENT TO PRISON.

A. C. Radcliffe, *alias* A. C. Chamberlain, was sent to prison by Commissioner Commerford in default of $10,000 bail, on a charge of smuggling diamonds.

LIFE INSURANCE CASE.

Thomas Jones has brought suit against the Brooklyn Life Insurance Company to recover a policy of $2,000 by Isaac Newling in favor of Jones. The defence contended that Newning was a confirmed drunkard, and died from the direct effects of liquor, therefore they held that the policy was violated. The jury rendered a verdict of $1,452, including interest, in favor of the plaintiff.

CRIME.

CHICAGO, January 27.—A rumor comes *via* Janesville, Wis., that a fearful tragedy occurred at Magee Corners, Winnebago county, on Monday, which resulted in the death of three men, a woman and two children, the tragedy having some connection with an alleged secret society. No further particulars.

CINCINNATI, O., January 27.—Two girls, named Gertrude and Mary Stanfield, aged ten and twelve years respectively, were brought to the city to-day from Middletown, Ohio, where they were arrested for setting fire to a barn. The barn and contents consisted of ten dollar bills on the National Bank of Poughkeepsie, New York, are spurious, but easily detected by competent judges. Upon examination before the Police Court this morning it was said they found the money on the floor of the car while coming from Dayton to Middletown. They were held in $1,000 bail, and in default of bail were committed to jail.

In the *Journal of the Franklin Institute* for January, Mr. Thurston, having traveled in Great Britain recently, presents some facts he gathered relating to the manufactures there. He says that iron shipbuilding is one of the most important branches of British industry. Iron hulls weigh less by 15 to 25 per cent. than wood; are more readily inspected and repaired; furnish better accommodations for the people; last longer; are not liable to break, and allow more immersion. Shipbuilding in Britain has been transferred to the north of the Tweed, and the Clyde is now a close second on the Mersey and Thames. The paper covers machinery as well as hulls, and is considered that the iron ore already built on the Delaware are only precursors of mighty fleets.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, January 27. The Dry goods market continues dull and irregular. Prints are uniform, at a general closing. Mesquite Mousselaine à l'aissen shadings of a fair demand. Ginghams are in moderate request. Cotton flannels are dull. Lancaster B. H. Indigo head 10c, 36 inch do. 9c, 32 inch do. 8c, 30 inch do. 7½c, 28 inch do. 7c, Pittsfield 10c, 36 inch do. 9c, 32 inch do. 8c, 30 inch do. 7½c, Pittsfield 10c are down to 9c; Smith River 12½c; Pepperell 10c; Pepperell sheets are up to 11½c.

Nashville Market.

NASHVILLE, January 27.—Cotton quiet; low middling 17½; Bank funds active at 75@80 cents refused 70@75; Gold 1.12@1.13; Sterling 9@9½; Silver 1.03@1.04; Lard 12½; Corn 60c; Oats 50c; Flour $4 50@6 00.

New York Cattle Market.

NEW YORK, January 27.—The severe snow storm prevented any arrivals to-day. It is now clear and the stock is expected to-night and to-morrow, but in moderate quantities. It is a fine time to clear up for many supplies of cattle and droll stocks. Markets strong for cattle and lambs. Hogs rather weaker but not lower; retails so far this week, 500 cattle, 15,000 sheep, 4,800 live and 4,000 dressed hogs.

THE WAR.

The Bombardment Continues.

Garibaldi Surrounded by Germans.

Movements of Minister Gambetta.

Prussian Forces Hurrying Eastward.

ENGLAND.

The Germans Insist on the Unconditional Surrender of Paris.

LONDON, January 26, 9:30 A. M.—The following is from an unofficial source, but is believed to be entirely trustworthy: The Germans will insist upon the unconditional surrender of Paris, with all the forts and defences.

The report in the London *Times* that there is a collision between Bismarck and Napoleon and Eugenie, is unfounded.

From the Troops Near the Swiss Frontier.

LONDON, January 25, 7:30 P. M.—A dispatch from Berne says that since the 23d inst., the French pickets have been posted along the frontier preventing egress from France into Switzerland, and imprisoning strangers.

There are many franctireurs near the Swiss boundary and their pickets are in the vicinity of the town of Villaus. The German patrols extend to Abbevillers.

The Germans have stormed Gray-Roche, and have repulsed a French attack upon Villaus.

Garibaldi surrounded—Jules Favre Returned to Paris—Emperor William Will Return to Berlin as Soon as Paris Is Capitulated.

LONDON, January 26.—The *Telegraph* has a dispatch announcing that Garibaldi and his forces are surrounded by the Prussians near Dijon.

The *Italie* Jules Favre returned from Versailles to Paris on Wednesday. The bombardment continues.

It is said the Emperor of Germany has written a letter to his wife, in which he says the capitulation of Paris is inevitable, and that he expects speedily to return to Berlin.

Cherbourg is crowded with captured Germans, principally staff.

Eugenie has Signed no Agreement—The Peace Negotiations.

LONDON, January 26.—The Secretary of the Empress to-day denied that she had signed the agreement which Bismark claims to have. The Empress is depressed and distressed at to-day's news from Paris.

At Favre's request M. M. Picard and Doran have received passes to go to Versailles to join in the negotiations.

The Conference yesterday had a discordant session of four hours.

Guizot Urges England to Intercede for Peace—The Citizens of Nancy Fined for Destroying a Bridge.

LONDON, January 26.—A letter from M. Guizot to Mr. Gladstone is published to-day, in which the former argues at length the question of proper conditions for peace between France and Prussia. He urges England to at least protest in favor of peace, and expresses the belief that such action on his part would not be vain.

An official statement from the government of Paris shows the French strength in the sortie of the 19th to have been 90,000.

A fine of ten million francs has been imposed upon the citizens of Nancy and the surrounding districts on account of the destruction by fire of the railroad bridge near Toul by the Franc-tireurs. In the event of its non-payment the Prussian authorities will adopt the most stringent measures of punishment and confiscation.

A dispatch from Havre says the Prussians are in a strong force between Bricune and Crouvill.

An official dispatch from Tours, dated 26th inst., says the first German army in the battle of St. Quentin at ninety-four officers and three thousand men.

FRANCE.

Gambetta at Bordeaux—Bourbaki's Movements.

BORDEAUX, January 26.—M. Gambetta arrived here to-day from Lille. The French re-occupied Alencon. The Germans threaten Augers.

The Prussians have withdrawn from the neighborhood of Dijon, and considerable German forces are hurrying to the eastern departments since the recent defeat of General Bourbaki. General Bourbaki has, however, maneuvered so as actually to protect the French rear against the advancing corps.

Arms for France.

BORDEAUX, January 26.—The steamer Lafayette has arrived in Garonne for the purpose of landing a cargo of American arms for this port.

PRUSSIA.

Rejoicing in Berlin Over the Prospect of Peace—Only Five Days' Rations Remain in Paris.

BERLIN, January 26.—The report of the arrival of Favre at Versailles, and that he was received, created a great excitement, although at present it is not officially confirmed.

The news of the supposed intended capitulation was noised abroad the streets were speedily filled with joyful crowds, and a great number of people repaired to the palace of the Crown Prince, the Queen and hear from her lips the glad intelligence promising the speedy return of peace. They were disappointed in their expectation, as no telegram from the Queen has been received. Public offices are closed, and business is generally suspended, employees being anxious to gather news. The greatest joy is manifested, and there is that the rumors of negotiations looking towards capitulation are true, from the fact that Jules Favre has returned to Paris from Versailles.

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SECOND EDITION.

4 O'CLOCK, A. M.

WASHINGTON.

The Low Bridge Men at Work.

Efforts to Tamper with Members of Congress—Letters from the People Pouring In—The Federal Offices at Cincinnati—Senator Schurz's Speech on Civil Service Reform—The Senate Tired of the Subject—Investigation of the Charges Against Senator Sprague to be Commenced To-day, &c., &c.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 27, 1871.

Appraiser of Merchandise at Cincinnati.

The name of Bowen Mattock was sent to the Senate to-day for Appraiser of Merchandise at Cincinnati.

Studying His Lesson.

Mr. Strader read the report of the United States engineers on the Newport and Cincinnati bridge last night. He is now trying to unravel the mystery of vested rights.

Federal Officers in Cincinnati.

Letters and dispatches are pouring in from Cincinnati in regard to the Federal officers in that city. Aaron F. Perry is pressing Hooker for one of the revenue offices. The reason for not consolidating the country revenue districts is that the territory would be too large for efficient work, and would put taxpayers to too much inconvenience.

The Bridge Question.

The Newport and Cincinnati bridge question is now held by the committees. Efforts are making by the low bridge men to tamper with members of the House committee. But letters and telegrams in the river districts are pouring in so fast that the dishonorable work is difficult and dangerous. Stanley Mathews admitted to-day, in answer to a direct question from a member of Congress, that on the surface the people were against the low bridge party.

Congressional Aid Appealed For.

C. W. West and a gentleman named Wright are here for the purpose of securing the influence of Senator Thurman in favor of a Congressional charter for the Cincinnati Southern Railroad. Whenever such a charter is desired it can be obtained without the aid of Senator Thurman. It is understood these Commissioners are also fixing matters with Thurman in regard to the next Presidency. The object is to have Thurman for the purpose of shoving Pendleton, Hendricks and Hoffman aside.

Civil Service Reform.

Senator Schurz, to-day, had the floor in the Senate after the morning hour, and made a speech on the civil service reform two hours long. It was characterized by the same sincerity of treatment and elegance of manner which have marked the two other important speeches delivered by him on this subject. But civil service reform does not interest the Senate to the same degree that the Missouri question and the San Domingo question did, though the galleries were well filled with lady spectators. Before the conclusion of the speech Trumbull substituted a bill of his own for that of Mr. Trumbull, which he thought weak in that it deprived the President of the power of removal. The Senate is tired of civil service reform, and of office seekers, without providing any substitute. His bill provides for a Board of nine examiners, who shall examine all candidates for offices, and to whom the President, Senate and the majority of the Senators was well expressed in the words of Senator Howard, uttered during a speech he made in favor of the Freedmen's Bureau bill. He said that he was sick of the whole subject of civil reform, which was the dream of visionaries. A motion was made to lay the subject on the table, but was lost. The bill went into the committee without so disposing of it.

Mr. Jenckes, of Rhode Island, has protested against the statement made in a Washington paper that the special senate committee to investigate the Credit Mobilier charges, there was no ground of accusation against Senator Sprague, and that Mr. Jenckes had failed to make good his charges before the committee. In reply to Mr. Thurman, of the Committee, saying the paragraph did him injustice that he has not failed to establish, nor had an opportunity to establish, and that he does not appeal, as the prosecutor, the investigation having been called for by another; but if called upon by the Judiciary Committee he will be ready to report all he knows about it. Thurman has replied, saying the paragraph was unauthorized, and the Committee had had no meeting, but would hold one to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 26, 1871.

PROPOSITION TO ABOLISH THE REVENUE BUREAU.

It was understood in the House to-day that it was the intention of Senator Johnson to present to the Senate a bill providing for the abolition of the Internal Revenue Bureau. The bill will be as soon as an opportunity offers, and he will then submit a speech explaining it. The bill, it is said, will embrace, substantially, the following points: That the Internal Revenue laws shall be in force for a time at least, the Internal Revenue system; but no bonds shall be issued for a longer time than is necessary. Therefore, let it expire with the restoration of the United States to specie basis. That the present system is complicated and indefensible, and to the outside world a military mass for the Legislative authority of taxation has had much to do with bringing about the deplorable result of the present financial crisis in the country. It bears with almost destructive weight upon some parts of the country and some portions of the people. That the Legislature has not the right to delegate legislative functions, and cannot well be otherwise; is demoralizing in its effects, in that it subjects the Legislature to blame for the Government and lessen their inclination to obey the laws; extends to the Executive the power of the purse, and destroys the constitutional rights of the States. That the Independence of the Union, which cite two States—Virginia and Massachusetts—as about the same population, and the former a Slave State, the latter a State not being tobacco; the other is a manufacturing and commercial community. One is enjoying a large share of the loss of half per cent. having been the theater of war for four years, while not a hundred acres of the soil of the latter other, which had the benefit of the contracts made necessary by the war, and certainly profited by the expenditure of the Federal money. The population of Virginia in 1870 was 1,209,607, about one-third of the population of Massachusetts is 1,457,351. Real estate in Virginia, as returned by assessors, 1869, was valued at $288,066,008, and personal estate at $20,479,-760 making a total of $308,545,768. The assessed value of Massachusetts, in 1869, was at $901,987,81, and personal estate at $156,060,855. Considering population the basis of taxation, the proportion of taxation should be as Virginia's six; of real estate, about sixteen to one. The total amount of bonded indebtedness of Virginia, the receipts of Virginia for the following fiscal year to be $4,500,000, and those of Massachusetts $25,000,000, leaving a surplus of $20,500 more than Massachusetts, and in greater proportion are other States. The object is to have Congress so alter the bridge as to comply with the law; that if the bridge is an obstruction to navigation, after practical test by the Secretary of War, to elevate or remove it, or to grant the Bridge Company will have the power to change or modify it, or take it away entirely, as may be needful, providing, always, that compensation for private property, taken for public purposes, is made a guarantee in all proceedings. No appropriations are made. If the bridge is not built according to the law, as stated to be the act of July of the present year. We ask that the Bridge Company may be allowed to so change or complete the bridge according to law; that if the bridge is an obstruction to navigation, after practical test by the Secretary of War, to elevate or remove it; that Congress may have the right

The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1871.

Two items came to our notice yesterday which show the importance of the present improved means of communication. Yesterday's mail brought an inquiry from Yokohama, in Japan, for descriptive circular and photographs of their light locomotives to Messrs Smith & Fontan, the manufacturers; several drafts from China on merchants of our city, for invoices of teas, imported by them direct *via* San Francisco, for this market.

Chicago is going to try to make steel rails, and for this purpose the Chicago Rolling Mill Company has added $500,000 to its capital. The works will have a daily capacity of seventy tons of rails, and will require one hundred and fifty men in addition to the thousand now employed. The erection of the new buildings will begin as soon as spring opens. Such home facts as these do more to convince the people of the Northwest of the practical benefits of protection than columns of newspaper talk avail to instil the doctrine of free trade.

Some inventor has a machine for bending ship timber, which he wants to sell to the Navy Department for $600,000. The matter was referred to the House Naval Committee, which refused to consider the matter unless the Secretary of the Navy endorsed the machine. He did so, and the Naval Committee sent the matter to the Committee on Appropriations, who sent it back. The principal argument against it is that we are building no ships and have no timber to bend. Another argument should be that we will build no more wooden ships anyhow. That inventor is about ten years too late.

It is asserted that Civil Service Reform, as advocated by ex-Secretary Cox, has not a dozen supporters in the United States Senate. Probably the number two years ago was not as great by half; and while the present strength is not sufficient for achieving immediate success, it certainly justifies the hope of ultimate triumph. The conflict will go on. The nature of the Reforms proposed and the reasons are as yet but imperfectly understood by the great mass of the people; but as light is diffused among them the principle will become stronger and stronger and an issue in the election of Senators and Representatives. The work is too great to be performed in a day or a year. The principle of reform possesses self-propelling influences that will enable it to fight its own battle, and there is no more reason to doubt its success ultimately than the existence of the Government itself.

It is a fearful time for General GRANT. United States Senators, failing of a re-election, are presented to him to be "taken care of," with what must be an exceedingly very uncomfortable frequency. It seems to have passed into permanent practice that Senators, and also Representatives, of a certain grade, rejected at home, must be provided for at Washington. The case of Senator TRAFTON, of Nebraska, is the latest, and possesses some features peculiarly touching. He did not expect to become a victim—"on the contrary quite the reverse." He took a run home to look after matters, and to make things sure took letters of good will and appeal in his behalf, written at both ends of the avenue, and came back a martyr. Of course he became the next candidate for "a place" by executive appointment. What place he is to have, is as yet uncertain; but he is too distinguished a subject, and his "taking off" was too peculiar in manner to admit of the idea of failure. The country is wide, the territories numerous, and there are plenty of experts in Washington to make a safe territory or place, or both—on the shortest notice.

It is no exaggeration to say that millions of hearts have been relieved by the announcement of Dr. LIVINGSTONE's safety. Though the report of his having been burnt as a wizard was the merest stuff ever fabricated by the Doctor's father-in-law, the Rev. Mr. MOFFAT, familiar with Africa by life long residence, and the Doctor's friend, Sir R. MURCHISON, familiar with Africa by prolonged studies, have all along felt and affirmed assurance of the explorer's safety, the general public, vaguely aware of the perils of his situation, had slightly a good deal of fear. The narrative he lives to prepare an account of his last journeyings, the narrative will be received and read by the world with such curiosity and interest as no traveler's record in modern times has ever before excited. Decisive and satisfactory answers may be confidently expected to two or three of the most important questions in African geography, the true sources of the Nile being one of them, while the personal adventures are likely to surpass in interest any invention of the most powerful imagination. However improbable many of the details may seem they will all be strictly true. Having survived such adventures, it is little likely that LIVINGSTONE will ever be long contented in the monotonous quiet of English or Scotch life. Having published his travels, he will probably return to Africa and die in the endeavor to complete some enterprise of exploration suggested by his last tour.

The Philadelphia *North American* accepts as plausible, the report that the Pennsylvania Central has obtained a controlling interest in the Union Pacific, and rejoices that in the great struggle of the railroads its champion is at last the victor. In this connection, it is said that the arrangement lately completed with the Camden and Amboy enables it to take passengers to and from New York over its track in such a manner and on such terms, in such time, that neither the Erie nor the New York Central can compete. Of the Union Pacific arrangement the *American* says: "It is enough that New York is disconcerted, that the only continental road "is to be worked in concert with the Pennsylvania, while the latter may soon discharge all of the Pacific freights it brings for Europe into European steamships on the Delaware, and draw from New York western bound freights by tariffs that are its exclusive pleasure. When it is remembered that the greatest of the Southern and Western roads are in some union with this corporation, the concluding words of our contemporary contain food for most serious reflection:

> It is evident that such a mastership cannot be without mighty interests on this State and city, and that this will reach far beyond our limits. The risks of sustaining and defending such an organization from the assaults of finance, and from its internal troubles, is very great. The responsibilities are vast. Statesmen and thoughtful men of every condition may well ponder the tremendous powers centralized in a few hands. But assuming that the management is quite as good honorable, and marked in its conduct by the ability that conceived and achieved one of the most stupendous events of modern organization, the benefits that may result to our State and city, without injury anywhere, are simply incalculable.

If was at the end of a square and hard fight that Commissioner PLEASANTON triumphed in the Senate on the odious Income Tax. It was, furthermore, a victory strictly in accordance with the policy of General GRANT's Administration, and which Secretary BOUTWELL has thus far been able to successfully resist—the policy of "having no policy opposed to the wishes of the people." Not only does the vote sustain the Commissioner, but the Administration, and this, too, not only as regards the declarations of General GRANT's inaugural, but the recommendation of his last message for a speedy reduction of the taxes. It has for a long time been a matter of no little surprise that the Secretary should so persistently adhere to the odious tax. It is not to be doubted that General GRANT, to the extent that the Secretary has been regarded as representing the administration, has felt himself compromised by such a course. That he has lent no inconsiderable degree of favor to Commissioner PLEASANTON in his combat with the Secretary, we are prepared to believe; and we are not at all surprised to hear that, in view of the vote in the Senate, the Secretary will probably resign. There is yet hope for him in the House of Representatives, when there should be none, reflecting as that body is supposed to do directly public sentiment. The Secretary may or may not conclude to make another stand in the House. There ought to be no doubt what will be its action on Senator SCOTT's repealing bill; but we all know what influences a Secretary, with immense patronage to dispense, himself earnest, and no doubt perfectly sincere, is able to wield with men having at least one eye to patronage as the means of their own political support and advancement. Were the people less unanimous and earnest one might well fear for the result, but now that the question of repealing the income tax has become in a considerable sense a test question with Representatives and the administration, a good deal of confidence may be felt that the will of the people will prevail in the House of Representatives, as it has after a hard struggle prevailed in the United States Senate.

LAW VS. DOCTORS.

In the *Commercial*, of yesterday, we were told that some stir is created in Harrisburg by a bill just brought before the Legislature for the regulation of medical practice in the State. As we have not seen the bill, we are unable to designate its provisions particularly, and know only that its tenor is to prohibit any one from practicing medicine unless he has had a diploma from some recognized medical college. It is verily no wonder that a sensation is produced by the mere threat of such a statute! Truly, to many people the proposition must seem conclusive evidence that the time is out of joint. What did our fathers fight for if not for liberty, and what is the use of our democratic institutions if they fail to secure us against monopoly and aristocracy? What becomes of our boasted progress, if we in this year of grace, after so many decades of republican government, are to be subjected to the tyranny and degradation of so flagrant an encroachment upon individual freedom? What, what, what, as GEORGE the Third used to say, shall medicine, the noble art of healing, be the only profession among us hedged in by legislative enactments and its professors protected against the competition of men qualified to cure by the endowment of genius, furnished with a diploma by nature herself? To make it illegal for a man to practice medicine without a diploma from a recognized medical college—what is that but to throw additional difficulties in the way of aspiring through ignorant men? Have not genius and ambition, hampered by ignorance, been obstacles enough already to overcome in order to get up in the world? Will an intelligent and patriotic people consent to an act the effect of which must be to render ambitious strivings not only more difficult than they are but criminal as well, when fame and money in the practice of the healing art are their objects? Such will all of these acts of dragoon, and the rhetorical artifice. It enables the reasoner to avoid definite propositions, or to throw upon the hearer the business of forming them, while impressing him by the manifest earnestness and convictions of the speaker.

Though not convinced ourselves by the array of interrogatory ornaments against which the bill in question is assailed, we fear that they will seem so powerful to a very large proportion of the people, as to render the proposed statute singularly ill adapted. The old Roman saying applies in the case, "laws without manners are invalid;" an enactment unsustained by public opinion is not likely to be strictly executed, and if executed may do more harm than good. Comparatively few people even in this enlightened state have any adequate notion of the perils they incur when they take the medicines or endure the manipulations of a charlatan ignorant of everything but a physician ought to know. Then the disagreement among the regular physicians and the variety of schools have had the effect in many by minds of relegating the whole subject of medicine into the regions of pseudo-science or uncertainty. To very many, again, all curative agencies and processes are looked at enveloped in mystery. Though they apply remedies, they say, with the Son of Sirach, "it is not the herb or the mollifying plaster that restoreth health, but thy word, O Lord, which healeth all things." To great numbers the words express more than a theological truth. In this view, especially when they have suffered many things of many physicians in vain, it is not strange perhaps that uneducated people are willing to try the quack.

> Very good, sir, quoth the patient,
> Spite of their knowledge trust in him when sick.
> Thought he, I have but one life, and they have many.
> They yet have hope his trash will make them well
> And should it not, they'll say, as they have often,
> What! when his nerves had once received a shock,
> Mr. Doctor Newton might have gone to Rock.

It is to be feared that if the proposed bill becomes a law, many will betake themselves to the quacks for the sake of the relish imparted to folly by the satisfaction of breaking a law. It is also certain that the enactment will give a touch of the dignity of martyrdom to many practitioners of medicine whose powers of mischief will be increased by the publicity. Instead of there being a few medical men in the State who by much study and experience have become qualified for the profession without a diploma. Such men would be wronged by the act. Finally, perhaps legislation of the kind proposed ought to be preceded by some additional legislation on the subject of existing medical schools in the State. At present those institutions, at least some of them, are believed not to be exceedingly careful either in enacting high preliminary attainments in the young men whom they admit as students, or in requiring very solid and extensive knowledge in those whom they honor with diplomas. Much might be said on this subject. Our present object is merely to direct attention to it in connection with the proposal to prohibit from practice all non-graduates.

THE Cuyahoga county, Ohio, Common Pleas Court has made a decision of considerable interest to national banks and their debtors, if it shall be sustained. PETTIS & Holland borrowed $8,000 of the Ohio National Bank of Cleveland. The bank discounted the bill at the rate of nine per cent., and at its maturity payment was refused, the defendant's setting up the plea of usury, and claiming a forfeiture of the whole debt. Judge BISHOP, in the case of was evidently the intention of Congress, in the National Currency act, to make the penalty for receiving, reserving or charging a rate of interest greater than the rate allowed by the State or Territory where the bank is located, *simply a forfeiture of the interest* which the note, or evidence of debt, carried with it, or which had been agreed to be paid thereon, and *not the forfeiture of the debt itself*, and therefore rendered against the maker and indorser of the bill, for the face of the note, less the interest reserved, and with interest from the date of the maturity of the note.

HON. ALEXANDER CALDWELL, just elected United States Senator from Kansas, is a native of Columbia, Lancaster county, this State. When a young man he was cashier of the Bank of Columbia, and his business tact and energy attracted the attention of the great house of ALEXANDER & Majors, contractors of furnishing army supplies to our forces in Utah, in the Mormon troubles. He did even better than they planned. After the war he settled at Leavenworth, Kansas, where he took a prominent part in public affairs. He has been President of two of the leading railroad companies of Kansas, and connected with nearly every great movement for the advancement of the interests of his adopted State. He is a man of much energy and good business qualifications, and has been successful in everything he ever undertook. Previous to the war Mr. Caldwell was a Democrat, but is now an advanced Republican.

THE Woolen Manufacturers Association of the West and South will hold its fourth annual meeting in Chicago, on February 6th. In addition to the routine business, matters pertaining to the interests of the Association in general will be discussed, and all important suggestions relating to the art of manufacturing will be offered and considered. The question as to the best method of finding a market for manufactured goods, whether through the individual efforts of the manufacturers themselves, or through agents, will be mooted; and many other propositions affecting the economy of the great interests involved, will be presented to the Association for its deliberation. The call urges upon the members the increased necessity for the most earnest co-operation in the future, in view of the perils menacing the manufacturing interests of the country.

A LETTER from Ashland, Schuylkill county, says there is no prospect of a compromise with the miners, and that the only hope for permanence in the mining interests of the county, is to have them controlled by a corporation, as has the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company. The mining population, the letter says, are floating and migratory; their tenure is entirely regulated by convenience, expedience, and temporary high wages in preference to steady employment and any disposition to acquire local interests. In consequence of this the merchants and manufacturers have not only for "cash down," while the "union" stores all collect for the long strike. These statements all point out that great distress must soon prevail in the anthracite region.

THE great case of Paschal against the State of Texas in the United States Supreme Court, to recover attorney's fees, estimated at $2,931, withheld by the State, has been argued on behalf of the Court. The Court held that if Paschal acted in good faith as attorney, after being duly retained, no rule would be applied here; that he had a right to retain the fees received in the bona fide discharge of his duties

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FINANCE AND TRADE

FRIDAY EVENING, January 27, 1871.

The gradual recovery of our local financial market from scarcity and closeness to a condition of comparative ease, is exerting a reviving influence on the general trade of the city. The commercial prospect is encouraging, and the check of frost in the inter-river was very large; the hog crop is unusually abundant, and the bulk of the cotton supply is yet on hand owing to the condition of war in Europe, and the consequent check of manufacturing industries. But one branch has brought freely of our products and paid for them promptly, showing a good financial condition of the country generally. These are all encouraging features for the coming spring, and we may be excused a prospect of peace which will reopen two of our most important foreign markets and a fair prospect for a reduction in taxation which will relieve the mercantile and manufacturing classes to an enormous burden and assist in stimulating every department of trade.

Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morning	Noon.	Closg.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	112½	112½	112¾
U. S. Bonds of 1882	110½	110¾	110¾
U. S. Bonds of 1864	108	108	108
U. S. Bonds of 1865	108½	108½	108½
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	108½	108½	108½
U. S. Bonds of 1867	108½	108½	108½
U. S. Bonds of 1868	108½	108½	108½
10-40s	104½	104½	104½
Gold	110¾	110¾	110¾

—At Chicago, the Tribune says, money continues to work close; the banks are accommodating their regular customers to whom they are under obligations, but other borrowers are obliged to seek money in the open market, where it is to be had on first-class paper at from 10 to 12 per cent per month. And at present money is rather close even at these rates, but in general it is a fact worthy of notice that when the demand for money increases a little, the 6 per cent. deposits of the banks grow out very rapidly, and there is a good supply of it in the open market at 10 per cent. per month.

We notice that, notwithstanding the close market for commercial loans on sixty days' sight drafts, there is a full supply of money to loan in sums of $5,000 and $10,000 on five years and upward, at 8 per cent. The general rule is, that the longer the time and the larger the amount than above indicated the higher is the rate of interest.

—The Wall street markets to-day were less active, except Rock Island, St. Paul's and Ohios, which advanced materially. New York Central, 92¾; Erie, 26¾; do. pf., 36¾; Hud. R., 94¾; Mich. S., 89¾; Ill. Cen., 122; Pitts. & Ft. W., 87½; Chi. & R. I., 91½; and 92½; Reading, 98¾; Mail, 36¾; Ohio, 90¾; Ind., 90¾; and 90¾; Lake Shore, 90¾; West. Un., 36¾; and 36¾; Quicksilver, 40; Pacific Mail, 36¾; and 36¾; Wells, Fargo & Co., 36; and 36¼; Canton, 57; and 57½; Cumberland, 36; and 36¼; Western Union Tel., 84¾; and 84¾; Boston, Hartford & Erie, 8; and 8¼; Chicago, Rock Island & Pittsburgh, 109¾; during the day; Northwestern, preferred, 86½; 86¾; 86¾; 86¾

THE VERY LATEST.

WASHINGTON.

Income Tax Not Yet Killed.

Singular Action of the House.

They Vote to Return the Repeal Bill to the Senate.

Congressman Butler Completely Vindicated—Documentary Evidence of Butler's Innocence Held by Commissioner Van Aernam for a Year Past—Business Before the Foreign Relations Committee, &c., &c.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 27, 1871.

A Wise Speech.

The remarks of Congressman Knott, of Kentucky, while the St. Croix Railroad bill was under discussion created considerable amusement in the House to-day. He struck the ludicrous side of the stupid arguments which have been used by the land grabbers ever since the first railroad and steamship scheme was inaugurated, and effectually corralled the Democrats with his overdrawn portrayal of the prosperity which was to follow the passage of this scheme. The whole thing was ridiculed, pointedly but at the same time humorously and clap-trap usually indulged in by some gentlemen who have enforgotten of the character in hand, for which they wish Government aid. The members, as a rule, took the matter in the same humorous vein, and appeared to fully appreciate the Kentuckian, and appeared to fully appreciate his wit and sarcasm. When his time was up the House extended it indefinitely, and continued to laugh and applaud his remarks until he had finished, Speaker Blaine vainly endeavoring to keep order.

River and Harbor Bill.

The House sub-Committee on Appropriations have agreed to the harbor and river improvement bill, and will report thereon at an early day. The amount involved in this bill now foots up to nearly five millions, and all the demands for aid in this direction have not yet been handed in. Everybody who has aid to ask appears to be taking their schemes to this bill. The appropriations voted by this committee in favor of the Louisville canal is $250,000. This is in addition to $200,000 recently voted.

Personal.

Mr. Scherck left here to-day for the purpose of accepting an invitation to a dinner recently tendered him by the merchants of New York. Ex-Attorney General Evarts is to make a speech on the occasion. Before Mr. Scherck leaves for Europe he will return here for instructions.

Senator Scott's Bill to be Returned to the Senate.

The Ways and Means Committee had up the proposed amendments to the tariff bill, changing the duty on steel and unsized paper so as to make it uniform. Frank Leslie, of New York, made an argument in favor of the change. Without coming to any conclusion the Committee proceeded to the consideration of numerous petitions and memorials protesting against abolishing the income tax. It was finally agreed to report the bill back to the Senate with the suggestion that under the Constitution all bills of this character should originate in the House. The resolution to this effect was reported by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hooper, under the operation of the previous question, there being but few votes in opposition to Mr. Randall objected to the resolution on the ground that it did not properly come under the clause relating to raising revenue, but the Chair overruled the point of order. This action on the part of the House is the general subject of conversation to-night.

Congressman Butler Acquitted.

Congressman B. R. Butler has had his trial on the charge of forgery, brought against him by our Commissioner of Pensions Bingham, and the result was a sudden and complete acquittal. The evidence was overwhelming and conclusive, both by oral testimony and written documents, that he had given no case of attorney to justify his action in the premises. The Judge remarked that there was no valid reason for the prosecution, and arrested the progress of the case before the defense had concluded the taking of testimony. The additional fact has become known to-night that clear documentary evidence of Butler's innocence has been in the hands of Commissioner Van Aernam for a year past, and was produced before Butler on their demand. Van Aernam has in his possession most of the *ex parte* information to the country during the which has been sent out to the light of present detail. Frost, and his counsel, in the matter, in the [illegible] while, awakens no little surprise.

Business Before the Foreign Relations Committee.

The Foreign Relations Committee had a session to-day the Venezuela matter, and examined several witnesses with regard to the claims of our citizens. They also had up the steamship subsidy scheme, including Conkling's mammoth job, but arrived at no definite understanding, as it had been previously ascertained that Schenck would not yield the floor to allow a hearing in the Senate on these bills. The nomination of Campbell as minister to Stockholm, and Root, of Kansas, in the same capacity to Chili, still hang fire on this committee, although it is expected that the former will be reported upon favorably next week.

[illegible] nominations:

Postmasters—Samuel Grove, Mexico, Me.; Gen. E. Williams, Carrollton, Ill.; Frank Cheshire, Morrison, Ill.; Hosea Rowe, Appleton, Me.; Wm. C. Hannon, Delphi, Ind.; C. J. Rawling, Wheeling, W. Va.; Commodore Wm. B. Taylor, Rear Admiral; Captain Napoleon Collins, Commodore.

Collectors—Samuel A. Orchard, Surveyor of Customs at Omaha; Julius E. Calloway, Secretary of the Territory of Montana; James C. Clemmins, Secretary of Washington Territory; Reuben Elwood, Assessor of Internal Revenue, Second District of Connecticut; A. S. Botsford, United States Attorney, Western District of Missouri; A. P. Allen, Indian Agent at Yuma Mohave; C. T. Brown, Surveyor General of Minnesota; Ira Bronson, Receiver of Public Moneys at Roseburg, Oregon.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, January 27, 1871.

PETITION TO THE PRESIDENT.

Thirty-five aldermen of New York and Brooklyn have petitioned President Grant to appoint Silas B. Dutcher Collector of New York.

OLD RELIC.

The famous violincello which belonged to Mr. George H. Shoplegh's residence and farm, situated in Lebanon, Wanse. He has a gang of workmen remodeling the house, and extensive alterations are also completed will occupy the premises.

TROUBLE GAS EXPLOSIONS.

The Brooklyn Argus gives up to-day with a long and report, and the explosion was so great that one of the large tanks, and three immense iron columns surrounding it, were blown over against a row of tenement houses on Gold street, and caused almost consternation among the occupants. The people were so panic stricken that they fled from the houses with all possible speed. Tunnel men are at work every direction, and for a moment threatened the destruction of other tanks. The fire was soon out, but it was of short duration. Two employees of the works were wounded, and one missing among the debris the body of Fred. Apperson, a colored man, was discovered beneath the pieces of one of the heavy columns blown down. Gas escaped from the pipes in a most shocking manner. The police are still engaged in searching for the bodies of John Hartley, a watchman, and a laborer named Bond, both of whom it is believed were killed. The loss is estimated at $150,000. It is probable the city will be without gas to-night. This is the third time within a short period that explosions have occurred on the premises. A night investigation will be made.

Frederick Anderson, the engineer, was the only person in the vicinity of the explosion at the time the gas works broke. All the other workmen escaped uninjured. The loss is $200,000.

THE PENIAN EXILES.

Who arrived to-day by the Russia, had an enthusiastic reception at Sweeney's Hall to-night. A crowd of several thousand assembled there, and crossed their way in, every one subscribing to greet Thomas Francis Burke and Dr. McSheehy, especially the former. The scene throughout was one of the wildest and enthusiasm, was one rarely witnessed, Irishman Rosen and wife occupied the platform, and were objects of incessant attention.

PROGRESS OF THE FRENCH FAIR.

The net proceeds of the recent fair in this city to aid the French sufferers to the war was $77,286, of which $50,000 have already been forwarded, and $25,000 will soon be sent for the assistance service of the Lucy in the field.

The masks from all directions to-day are from three to six hours late. There on the Hudson River Railroad are most seriously delayed.

Chief Engineer Adams, of the Brooklyn water works, says the ponds are getting low, and there will in all probability be a scarcity of water in Brooklyn. The actual reserve of water in the ponds has been exhausted, and the engines are now stopped for want of water. He suggests the citizens aid in water the pipes with hose, and the use of a reduction should break out, and this would be without the means of arresting it.

GENERAL SALE DISCHARGED.

Judge Blatchford to-day delivered an elaborate opinion, discharging General Thomas H. Hunt, recommanding Governor's Island, from custody, for refusing to obey Judge McCunn's *habeas corpus* directing him to produce an illegally enlisted soldier.

DRY GOODS.

The number of dry goods buyers in town is increasing, and in the hotels are gradually filling up. The demand continues to be largely in favor of cotton fabrics, which are reported very firm. The inquiry for woolens, for the approaching trade, has a tendency to keep prices strong. The impression is not as yet made any general opening of their spring lines.

THE STEAMER MOSES.

It is reported to-day that the Horatio has landed the remainder of Ryan's expedition, and been employed in operations hostile to Spain, General Butler will not, come responsible for the bond of $50,000 he gave at the time the vessel was seized, and will be forfeited to the Court of the United States, in July last. The bonds attached to the vessel will also be paid, and the whole affair ended. The expedition from any part of the United States, is considered legitimate against Spain, nor be cased in any manner in violation of the neutrality of the United States.

NEWSPAPER SUIT.

The suit of Charles H. Farrel, recently managing editor of the *Free Press*, against the proprietors for salary, was decided to-day by Judge Quinn in favor of the defendants. The amount of the suit of sixty was charged against the plaintiff.

FAST HORSE KILLED.

The trotting mare Village Belle ran away in Harlem one to-day, dashed on the Harlem Railroad track, was struck by a locomotive and killed. Her owner and driver, Mr. Sharp, escaped with slight injuries. The mare was valued at seven thousand dollars.

THE STREET RAIL CHARTER FOR SCHOOL.

The New York Board of Aldermen to-night added resolute the publication of the following notice: The steamship City of London will sail on Monday afternoon, the 30th instant, at three o'clock P. M., for the first mail steamer for Europe. The mail will close at the New York postoffice on Monday at two o'clock P. M.

RAILWAY MATTERS

THE KNOXVILLE SCANDAL.

LOUISVILLE, January 27.—At a meeting of the Board of Trade to-day, a committee of two was appointed, and the city councils assisted and supported a committee of five, and a committee of four to confer with the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, to take steps to secure the completion of the Knoxville branch; also, to see what arrangements can be made with the Decatur and Montgomery, Alabama, connection for the latter branch.

SMASHED UP PENNSYLVANIA AND WESTERN RAILROAD MEN.

NEW YORK, January 27.—The representatives of the Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania railroads who have been holding a conference here for some days past, have taken measures to attract emigrants to their wide, and urge legislation in the interest of Washington, and the matter was discussed at length this evening. The meeting adjourned this evening. The proceedings were conducted with closed doors, but no definite information of the action taken has been obtained.

Impending Fall.

Rioting in the Streets of Paris.

OUTGIVINGS OF GAMBETTA.

If Paris Falls, France Will Not.

Peace Negotiations Continue.

Great Activity Among Bonapartists.

PRUSSIA

Favre Returns to Paris.

VERSAILLES, January 26.—Jules Favre returned to Paris yesterday.

French Prisoners En Route to Germany.

Special to the Herald.]

SARARBRUCK, January 25.—Several trains of French prisoners from St. Quentin were halted at the station to-day and yesterday, on their way to the interior. Some were wounded, all haggard in the extreme, and many suffering from hunger. Youths under twenty and men over forty were in the convoy, and there were some in a shocking condition. An excited feeling of sympathy prevailed for the hearts of the German people on the platform when the trains arrived. A batch of wounded Wurtemburgians and Bavarians have also arrived here. Long trains of prisoners are passing this way en route to Versailles. It is supposed they are intended for the relief of Paris after the capitulation. A heavy snow storm prevails here.

Bourbaki in a Bad Place.

BERLIN, January 26.—The army of General Manteuffel, crossing the line, in the rear of Bourbaki, who is being driven into a dangerous position, and certain either to capitulate or be cut to pieces. The movement is considered of the utmost importance to interrupt the transportation of munitions.

ENGLAND

News of Capitulation Not Confirmed.

Special to the Herald.]

LONDON, January 26.—Other papers as yet have no confirmation of the telegram in the *Times* relating to the proposed capitulation.

No News of the Capitulation of Paris.

LONDON, January 26.—On inquiry at the German Legation here at noon to-day, it was ascertained that no information of the capitulation of Paris had been received there, and at the British Foreign Office, up to a late hour last night, the report that M. Favre had made propositions for capitulation remained unconfirmed.

The *Globe* says that the Germans have resumed preparations for the siege of Cambrai.

The Prussians have evacuated Dole and cut the railroad between Mouchard and Besancon.

General Gortlandt writes Froppel, saying: "Forget the past and the only of the future—organize as many Iranian committees as possible and send them to me."

Rioting in Paris—A Prison Broken Open and the Political Prisoners Released—Gustav Flourens then Heads the Mob—The Movement Considered.

LONDON, January 26.—Advices from Paris to the 23d have been received. The evening of yesterday, one hundred and twenty-eight days since the commencement of the siege, was marked by more excitement since the investment a scene which all have been dreading, more or less, every day during the whole of the siege, but which, from the apathy of the people, has not come to pass. The people took the oath with good will and confidence and, when they broke up in groups and returned to their immediate homes, or wandered about the dark city like restless spirits, no one knows.

At noon yesterday, in accordance with their pledge, about ten thousand men assembled at the Hotel de Ville numerous looking ruffians in the city, including a large contingent from the suburbs of La Villette and Belle Ville. Battalion National Guards, marched in a body to the place in front of the Hotel de Ville, uttering revolutionary cries, and calling for the citizens to arm.

Gustav Flourens arrived at Montmartre.

The Garrison of Longwy.

ARLON, BELGIUM, January 26.—The French garrison of Longwy have been sent to Thionville and Metz. The fortifications of Longwy are to be destroyed.

PARIS.

AFTER THE FALL, WHAT?

Comments of the New York Press Yesterday.

Paris—Closing Scenes of the War in Paris.

[From New York Herald Yesterday.]

General Trochu, the Governor of Paris, has of late been severely criticised. By some he is regarded as a traitor, by others as a fool, and by others as a coward. By another class he is condemned for not attempting a grand sortie with two hundred thousand men, or the whole force, and breaking through the German investing lines at one point, and thus relieving the suffering Paris come adverse criticisms of the Governor. The people within the city cry out against him, and "A Traitor!" "A Coward!" "A Fool!" are the words of Paris, pened by men who perhaps have never handled a musket or done a day's duty in any hospital. Gen. Trochu is not a coward, however, might be well to intelligently and calmly consider his position before uttering his hint that unlimited confidence nation which has of late been heaped upon him name! It is certainly not a small thing to be the *Herald* the rapid, almost sudden, collapse of the armies of Napoleon. After Napoleon had declared war against Prussia, and France stood in danger, King William regarded his invasion as comparatively easy. He knew that the capture of the capital was the prize intended to crown the edifice of German success and French humiliation. In the seventh week, as we all remember, Trochu sent all his energies. Paris he resolved to defend, inch by inch, and foot by foot. In succession the months during which the Germans have lain around him for each succeeding day, provided that the defense of Paris is concerned, Trochu has done his duty.

The surrender of Napoleon at Sedan gave to the German conqueror the last of the armies of the empire, with the exception of the garrisons of Metz and Ulrich at strasbourg. The forces of these two generals, however, were denied to do anything for France. Bazaine was hemmed in on all sides in Metz and Ulrich was effectually locked up in Strasbourg. With the thorough investment of these fortresses was being completed the great bulk of the German army was marching on Paris. When Trochu assumed the governorship of the capital he found himself in a position of great responsibility without the means of maintaining it. It is true he had fortifications and cannon, and stores at command by which the city might be rendered impregnable, but he lacked the properly drilled and disciplined troops without which no fortifications and the best material they contained were absolutely worthless. To form an army, to distribute that army and prepare it for future operations Trochu received at his call. Military reasons to the Governor of Paris to surrender after he had done his duty under the circumstances, and to the end of the siege his victorious legions was to be maintained.

The republic was proclaimed, France was declared free without the means to assert her independence. While all around him the field it was plainly the duty of General Trochu, even supposing that he had a force of say three hundred thousand well-disciplined men, under him, which he had not, to remain where he was, and, by massively inactivity, afford a chance for the republican leaders in the provinces to awaken the people to the necessities of the situation. The war had, with the fall of the empire, assumed an altogether different phase. Trochu held, by the policy he pursued, over three hundred thousand Germans, while outside of Paris, doing nothing but watching; the obstinacy of the latter engaged the attention of many who would otherwise have been at the front. The brief and gallant defense of Gen. Ulrich at Strasbourg gave emphasis to the general resistance of the French. Thus it will be seen that nearly the entire German army was delayed, absorbed, and time lost, which was to France to prepare armies for the field. That the time so absorbed was improved by